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# Pakistani Chief Hopes U.N. Parley With Gandhi Will Ease Friction

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UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 20 — President Mohammad Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan said today that he hoped his meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India on Wednesday would "pave the way for a better, friction-free relationship" between the two countries.

"We thought we could meet here to explore the possibilities of how to get over the snail's pace of normalization of relations," he said in an interview.

The two leaders, who are attending the 40th anniversary commemoration of the United Nations, have met twice before, at the funerals of Indira Gandhi, the slain Prime Minister of India, and of Konstantin U. Chernenko, the Soviet leader.

On a separate matter, General Zia reiterated his pledge to sign the treaty banning the spread of nuclear weapons and to open his country's nuclear plants to international safeguards and inspection if India agreed to do the same. He said a regional policy was necessary to deal with the nuclear abilities of the two countries.

## Asks Evenhanded Policy

"Let's have an evenhanded policy from international agencies and also from countries like the United States to deal with India and Pakistan on the same plane," he said. "Pakistan's offer is that if India agrees to sign a nuclear nonproliferation treaty, we will be signing one minute before."

General Zia said he expected to discuss regional cooperation with Mr. Gandhi this week.

Last month the United States sent a mission led by Michael H. Armacost, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, and Donald R. Fortier, a member of the National Security Council, to help smooth relations between India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars since their independence in 1947. The mission, which urged the two nations to undertake "regional initiatives" to avert a nuclear arms race on the subcontinent, was praised in Pakistan and criticized in India.

"Let's have mutual inspection of both nuclear installations, and if that is not acceptable, let's have a bilateral nuclear nonproliferation treaty, and if that is not acceptable, an international agreement," General Zia said.

"What's good for the goose is good for the gander," he said. "Why should Pakistan alone be put on the spot?"

## Nuclear Issue Stressed

The Pakistani military leader called the nuclear issue a "major point of contention" between the two nations, charging that in the last six months India had "stepped up its propaganda that Pakistan is indulging in nuclear technology for military purposes."

India maintains it has no program to produce bombs, and it charges that Pakistan is determined to have one. General Zia reiterated denials that his country is developing a nuclear bomb, saying, "Pakistan has neither the resources nor the means nor the desire."

He added, however, that his country had no intention of changing its policy on developing its nuclear ability. He characterized Pakistan's program to produce enriched uranium at the Kahuta plant as "a very modest research program," necessary to help make the country self-sufficient in meeting future energy requirements.

He dismissed as "all fabrication" Western intelligence reports that Pakistan has built a small reprocessing plant in Islamabad able to produce plutonium. He denied recent reports from India that Pakistan was on the verge of conducting a nuclear test with Chinese cooperation on its border with China, saying Pakistan's nuclear program is "totally indigenous."

Another subject that he expects to come up at his meeting with Mr. Gandhi is India's charge that Pakistan has aids Sikh terrorists at training camps in Pakistan, which he denied.

"I'd not only like somebody to prove that Pakistan is training the Sikhs, but why should we," he said. At another point he said, "You just don't soil your hands unnecessarily unless you can achieve."

He said, however, that "the odd statements of somebody saying he went across and he received training" and "the odd statements" that result when prisoners are "questioned under stress and strains and pressure" are not "proof of Pakistan's involvement."

He acknowledged that the border between the two countries is "open and easily accessible by smugglers or anyone wishing to get across." He added that "we don't rule out" that "some Sikhs may have got across to Pakistan and some Pakistanis might get across to India."

Indian officials have asked the United States to press Pakistan to stop what they say is an attempt to destabilize India. But General Zia said, "It is not possible for Pakistan to seal off the borders."

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